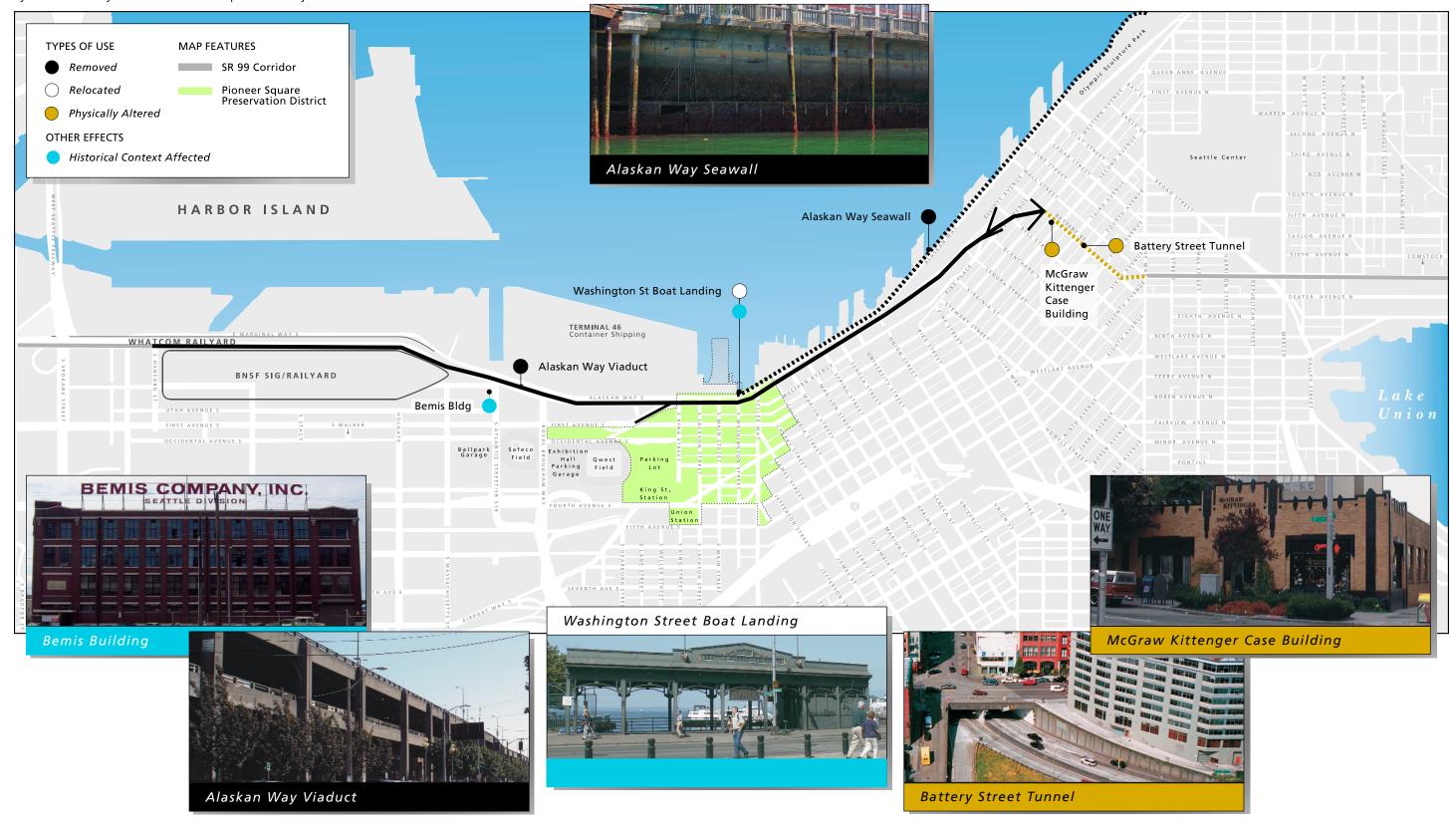
REFERENCE PAGES

Section 4(f) Resources Affected by the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project



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SECTION 4(F) EVALUATION

What is Section 4(f)?

Section 4(f) refers to a section of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 that established the policy "that special effort should be made to preserve the natural beauty of the countryside and public park and recreation lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites." (These requirements are codified in federal law at 49 U.S.C. 303.)

Section 4(f) requires that transportation projects with federal involvement avoid use of:

- Park and recreation land (specifically publicly owned land of a significant public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of national, state, or local significance), or
- Historic resources (specifically a historic site of national, state, or local significance) on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

In discussing 4(f), the term "use" may mean either a direct use or constructive use. A direct use occurs when land is permanently incorporated into a transportation facility or when there is a temporary occupancy of land that is adverse to a 4(f) resource. Temporary occupancy of a property is not considered adverse under the Section 4(f) statute if the following conditions are satisfied: (1) duration must be temporary (i.e., shorter than the period of construction); (2) the scope of work must be minor, with only minimal changes to the protected resource; (3) there are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts, or interference with the activities or purposes of the resource on either a temporary or permanent basis; (4) the property being used must be fully restored to a condition which is at least as good as that which existed prior to the proposed project; and; (5) there must be documented agreement of the appropriate officials having jurisdiction over the resource regarding the above conditions. Constructive use occurs when a project's proximity impacts are so severe that the protected activities, features, or attributes that qualify a resource for protection under Section 4(f) are substantially impaired.

Effects to Section 4(f)Resources				ed Alternative	ERED CHICKLE	Alternative
Removed	Physically A	tered		ď	nel h	ERED ACT ICTURE	LERED OCT
○ Relocated	Historical Co	ontext Affected		910	CO JARI	IMP Stru	L'ALTIMP!
Name Location	Owner	Section 4(f) Status	Primary Function	erie velo	ete out all other of the second	enstern RELOPHY	Call alither act
Bemis Building ¹ 55 - 65 S. Atlantic Street	Private	National Register Eligible	Studios		•		
Alaskan Way Seawall Along Alaskan Way	Public City of Seattle	National Register Eligible				•	
Alaskan Way Viaduct Above Alaskan Way on waterfront	Public WSDOT	National Register Eligible	Transportation			•	
S. Washington Street Boat Landing S. Washington Street at Alaskan Way	City of Seattle	Park and Recreational Facility Pergola Structure National Register	Views Relaxation Fishing				
McGraw Kittenger Case Blu Canary/MGM Building 2330 First Avenue	Private	National Register Eligible					
Battery Street Tunnel Under Battery Street between First Avenue and Denny Way	Public (WSDOT or City of Seattle)	National Register Eligible	Transportation				

¹ Building would remain in its current location but access would be affected.

In order to make use of such lands or resources, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) must determine that:

- There is no feasible and prudent avoidance alternative to using that land; and
- The program or project includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the park, recreation area, wildlife and waterfowl refuge, or historic site resulting from the use.

How is it determined that there are no alternatives to use of the Section 4(f) resource?

To demonstrate that there is no feasible and prudent avoidance alternative to the use of Section 4(f) land or resources, an evaluation must address:

- · Location alternatives; and
- Design shifts that avoid the Section 4(f) land.

Avoidance is required unless the alternatives that would not involve Section 4(f) resources result in unique problems. Unique problems are present when there are truly unusual factors or when the costs or community disruption reach extraordinary magnitude.

How were alternatives selected?

For this project, a number of alternatives were considered in an initial screening process. These were narrowed to five alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) published in March 2004.

This evaluation considers two alternatives developed since the Draft EIS that meet the purpose of and need for the project.

What is the project's purpose and need?

In April 2005, the lead agencies amended the project's purpose and need statement to address the need for

access and safety improvements to the State Route (SR) 99 Corridor north of the Battery Street Tunnel.

Purpose of the Proposed Action

The main purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility and seawall with improved earthquake resistance. The project will maintain or improve mobility, accessibility, and traffic safety for people and goods along the Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor as well as improve access to and from SR 99 from the Battery Street Tunnel north to Roy Street.

Need for the Proposed Action

The Alaskan Way Viaduct and Alaskan Way Seawall are both at the end of their useful life. Improvements to both are required to protect public safety and maintain the transportation corridor. Because these facilities are at risk of sudden and catastrophic failure in an earthquake, FHWA, Washington State Department of Transportation

(WSDOT), and the City of Seattle seek to implement these improvements as quickly as possible. Improvements between the Battery Street Tunnel and Roy Street will be needed to improve access to and from SR 99 and to improve local street connections once the viaduct is replaced. FHWA, WSDOT, and the City of Seattle have identified several underlying needs the project will address:

- Seismic vulnerability
- Traffic safety
- Roadway design deficiencies
- Bicycle and pedestrian safety and accessibility

The complete purpose and need statement is found on page 122 in this document.

What alternatives were considered for this Section 4(f) evaluation?

Two Build Alternatives are considered in the Supplemental Draft EIS: the Tunnel Alternative (Preferred Alternative) and the Elevated Structure Alternative. These alternatives are described in more detail in Chapter 4. The following is a summary of the main features of the alternatives.

Tunnel Alternative (Preferred Alternative)

Under the Tunnel Alternative, several design choices are under consideration for the configuration of facilities in various portions of the corridor. There are two potential designs for the tunnel in the central section of the corridor:

- Stacked tunnel (preferred)
- Side-by-side tunnel

Both designs would have three lanes in each direction. The tunnel would extend from approximately S. Dearborn Street to Pine Street. In addition to the tunnel portion of the corridor, there are several design choices in different sections of the corridor.

In the south section, there are two design choices:

 The Reconfigured Whatcom Railyard choice is part of the preferred alignment. SR 99 would remain in its current alignment between the Burlington

- Northern Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) Seattle International Gateway (SIG) Railyard on the east and the Whatcom Railyard to the west, with a short bridge over the new tail track and connection between the railyards.
- The Relocated Whatcom Railyard choice would shift SR 99 to the west into the site of the existing Whatcom Railyard and shift the railyard to the east to occupy the existing highway right-of-way next to the BNSF SIG Railyard. The SR 99 roadway would be at-grade.

From Union Street to Steinbrueck Park at about Virginia Street, the following design choices are considered for structures above the roadway:

- The Steinbrueck Park Walkway choice (part of the Preferred Alternative) would consist of a lid over the entire roadway to just past Pine Street, and then it would become a 20-foot-wide pedestrian walkway east of and elevated above the level of the SR 99 roadway.
- The Steinbrueck Park Lid choice would construct a lid covering the entire width of the roadway from the north end of Victor Steinbrueck Park to the waterfront, approximately 560 feet in length.

The central section of the corridor also includes the following design choices:

- The SR 99 Under Elliott and Western Avenues choice (part of the Preferred Alternative) would cross over the BNSF railroad tunnel and enter a cut section below Elliott and Western Avenues, which crosses above SR 99 at grade. This choice requires modification to the Battery Street Tunnel to meet the existing tunnel portal about 12 feet below the existing tunnel floor. To accommodate the new roadway, the tunnel floor would be substantially lowered for about 450 feet into the tunnel.
- The SR 99 Over Elliott and Western Avenues choice would cross over the BNSF railroad tunnel and over Elliott and Western Avenues on a side-by-side aerial structure slightly wider than the existing structure and would connect with the Battery Street Tunnel similar to the existing configuration.

Within the Battery Street Tunnel, the vertical clearance in the tunnel would be increased to 16.5 feet. Fire/life safety improvements (which include seismic upgrades and access and egress improvements) would be added. Ventilation buildings would be located above each tunnel portal. The Lowered Aurora design choice for the Battery Street Tunnel would add modifications to the curves at both the south and north portals.

North of the Battery Street Tunnel, there are two design choices for SR 99:

- The Partially Lowered Aurora choice (part of the Preferred Alternative) would provide improvements from Denny Way to Aloha Street. From Denny Way to Republican Street, SR 99 would be lowered in a retained cut with Thomas and Harrison Streets crossing over Aurora Avenue N. Mercer Street would continue to cross under Aurora but would be reconfigured to a two-way street. In addition, Roy Street would be regraded to connect to SR 99.
- The Lowered Aurora choice would place SR 99 in a retained cut between Denny Way and Comstock Street with Thomas, Harrison, Republican, Mercer, and Roy Streets crossing over the highway.

Elevated Structure Alternative

From S. Holgate Street to south of S. Atlantic Street, the Elevated Structure Alternative includes the same design choices for the Reconfigured or Relocated Whatcom Railyard.

The roadway would become a side-by-side aerial structure south of S. Atlantic Street to near S. King Street, where it would transition to a new wider double-level aerial structure. Between Union Street and about Pine Street, the double-level stacked structure would transition to a side-by-side structure as it climbs the hill to the Battery Street Tunnel. There would be no lidded structure (over the roadway) or walkway from Steinbrueck Park at the north end of the Pike Place Market to the central waterfront along Alaskan Way below. The Elliott and Western Avenues ramp configuration for the Elevated Structure Alternative would be the same as the existing ramps. SR 99 would then pass over Elliott and Western Avenues.

The Battery Street Tunnel would be upgraded with fire/life safety improvements, and the vertical clearance would be increased to 16.5 feet by lowering the existing roadway. Ventilation buildings would be located above each tunnel portal.

SR 99 would be lowered and widened with the Partially Lowered Aurora design choice, as described above under the Tunnel Alternative.

What local, state, and federal agencies were coordinated with to determine what park and recreation land and historic resources would be affected?

Section 4(f) requires consultation with the Department of the Interior and, as appropriate, the involved offices of the Departments of Agriculture and Housing and Urban Development in developing transportation projects and programs that use lands protected by Section 4(f).

Coordination for the Section 4(f) review included coordination meetings, field visits, and preliminary memoranda outlining Section 4(f) issues with representatives of FHWA, WSDOT, the City of Seattle, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and the National Park Service (NPS).

What is Section 106, and how does it affect the way we evaluate park and recreation land and historic resources?

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires agencies to consider the effects of federal actions on historic properties and archaeological resources. In compliance with Section 106 requirements, the project team has and will continue to consult with the SHPO, tribes, and other interested parties in developing mitigation measures. As part of our consultation with SHPO we will do the following:

 Develop agreements to address how we will deal with known and unknown effects to historic and cultural resources. Any historically significant discoveries encountered during construction would be subject to Section 4(f) provisions. Develop resource-specific Memoranda of Agreement to document and mitigate effects. The project has already begun documenting known historic effects to the viaduct, seawall, and the Washington Street Boat Landing. Additionally, the project partners are conducting in-depth archaeological studies of the area to better understand where cultural sites or sensitive cultural resources may be located.

Depending on the type of resource, mitigation of adverse construction effects can involve documentation, excavation, and in-place preservation or relocation. Other appropriate measures will be developed on a case-by-case basis with the SHPO. When the parties agree on how the adverse impacts will be resolved, a Memorandum of Agreement will be signed and implemented. This agreement will outline mitigation measures, identify responsible parties, and bind the signatories. In consultation with the SHPO and tribes, the project team will also develop an inadvertent discovery protocol and construction monitoring plan. The Section 106 documentation will be included in the Final EIS.

Park and Recreation Resources

Park and recreation facilities in the project area were identified with the cooperation of the City of Seattle Parks Department, the Port of Seattle, and the Seattle Department of Planning and Development (DPD, formerly Design, Construction and Land Use).

Local plans and guidelines that address park and recreation policies and provide a framework for the evaluation of use were consulted in development of this report. A complete list of resources is found in the 2004 Draft EIS Appendix H, Parks and Recreation Technical Memorandum.

Collected information was confirmed by site reconnaissance and meetings with local jurisdictions, including:

- City of Seattle, Department of Parks and Recreation
- City of Seattle, Department of Transportation
- Seattle Aquarium
- City of Seattle, DPD
- Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs

- Port of Seattle
- WSDOT
- Washington State Ferries

As a result of consultation with the agencies listed above, park and recreation facilities within three to five blocks of the proposed project facilities were identified for further analysis as potentially affected by the alternatives.

Historic Resources

Coordination meetings were held with:

- The State Historic Preservation Officer
- The City of Seattle Preservation Officer
- The WSDOT Cultural Resources specialist
- FHWA

Through these meetings, agreement was reached on the Area of Potential Effect and the overall approach to the survey and inventory process. Information on potential use was shared with these agencies as project engineering progressed. Detailed coordination on eligibility for the National Historic Register involved coordination with Craig Holstine of WSDOT.

A more complete discussion of coordination on historic resources is found in the 2004 Draft EIS Appendix L and 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix L, Historic Resources Technical Memoranda.

National Park Service

Consultation with the NPS consisted of review of NPS comments and a meeting with NPS staff. Issues identified by NPS included:

- Impacts to public access, especially to Piers 54 through 57.
- Impacts to public access during construction.
- The potential for substantial impairment of the recreational activities at Blake Island State Park through limits to access.
- Mitigation of adverse impacts on historic resources through the Section 106 process and preparation of

a memorandum of agreement for affected historic resources.

What park and recreation land affected by the project is protected by the provisions of Section 4(f)?

Park and recreation sites determined to be protected under the provisions of Section 4(f) and subject to use include only the Washington Street Boat Landing pergola. The pergola would be displaced during construction and relocated after completion of the project to an analogous location at the foot of S. Washington Street. Additional discussion of effects on this site is included below and in the 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part A. Part A evaluates 4(f) properties that would be subjected to use, and details ways in which possible planning to minimize harm would be or has already been incorporated into the

What historic resources affected by the project are protected by the provisions of Section 4(f)?

Historic resources determined to be protected under the provisions of Section 4(f) and subject to use by both alternatives include:

- The Alaskan Way Viaduct
- The Alaskan Way Seawall
- The Battery Street Tunnel
- The Bemis Building
- The Washington Street Boat Landing
- The McGraw Kittenger Case (Blu Canary/MGM) **Building**

These properties have achieved 4(f) status through being listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), by being determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register, or by being located in a National Register historic district. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, and administered by the NPS, the National Register is part of a program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect historic and archeological resources. To

be eligible for inclusion in the National Register, properties must meet one or more of the following criteria:

Criterion A – the property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

Criterion B - the property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

Criterion C – the property embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Criterion D - the property has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Additionally, there may be archaeological resources within the project boundaries that have not yet been identified or located. Construction of either the Tunnel or Elevated Structure Alternatives could potentially affect these resources through excavation, pile-driving, drilled shaft construction, seawall construction, and soil improvment. Any historically significant discoveries encountered during construction would be subject to Section 4(f) provisions.

Additional discussion of effects on these resources is included below and in the 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part A.

Why is the Alaskan Way Viaduct protected under the provisions of Section 4(f)?

The Alaskan Way Viaduct has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with bridge and tunnel building in Washington in the 1950s and under Criterion C for its type, period, materials, and methods of construction. It is the only multi-span concrete double-level bridge in the state. It is also significant for its role in the development of the regional transportation system and of Seattle's waterfront. (See additional description in the 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part A.)

What use would occur under the Build Alternatives?

Both alternatives would demolish the existing structure.

What avoidance alternatives have been identified?

There are no avoidance or design alternatives that would avoid replacement or reconstruction of the existing viaduct given its inherent structural limitations and high risk of failure during a seismic event.

What planning to minimize harm has been incorporated into the proposal?

Replacement of the existing viaduct is included in both Build Alternatives. Prior to issuance of the Final EIS and Record of Decision, a documentation plan will be required to ensure that fully adequate records are made of the viaduct in accordance with Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) standards.

Why is the Alaskan Way Seawall protected under the provisions of Section 4(f)?

The Alaskan Way Seawall has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with development of the central waterfront from the early 1900s to the mid 1930s. It is also significant under Criterion C for the type, period, materials, and methods of construction. It was designed and built by the Seattle Engineering Department using a unique piling and platform design. (See additional description in the 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part A.)

What use would occur under the Build Alternatives?

The Tunnel Alternative would replace the seawall from S. Washington Street up to Broad Street. Between S. Washington Street and Union Street, the existing seawall would be replaced by the outer wall of the tunnel. From Union Street to Broad Street, the seawall would be rebuilt by improving the soils and replacing the existing seawall in most locations.

The Elevated Structure Alternative would replace the seawall in most locations from S. Washington Street up to Broad Street by improving the soils and replacing the existing seawall.

What avoidance alternatives have been identified?

There are no avoidance or design alternatives to replacement or reconstruction of the existing seawall given its inherent structural limitations and high risk of failure during a seismic event.

What planning to minimize harm has been incorporated into the proposal?

Because replacement of the existing seawall is included in both Build Alternatives, prior to issuance of the Final EIS and Record of Decision, a documentation plan will be required to ensure that the structure is documented in accordance with HAER standards.

Why is the Battery Street Tunnel protected under the provisions of Section 4(f)?

The Battery Street Tunnel, along with the Alaskan Way Viaduct, has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with tunnel building in Washington in the 1950s and as the first tunnel designed and built by the City of Seattle Engineering Department. It is also significant under Criterion C for the type, period, materials, and methods of construction. It was designed and built to minimize disruption to street traffic and to minimize the risk to adjacent buildings. In addition to its engineering importance, it is significant for its contribution to the development of the local transportation system, connecting SR 99, built in the 1930s, with the Alaskan Way Viaduct, completed in the 1950s. (See additional description in the 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part A.)

What use would occur under the Build Alternatives?

The Battery Street Tunnel would be altered to increase the vertical clearance to approximately 16.5 feet, and to add fire/life safety improvements under both Build Alternatives, including vent structures at the portals. There is also a design choice under the Tunnel Alternative—Lowered Aurora—that would widen the curves at the south and north portals. These changes to the Battery Street Tunnel would substantially change the tunnel portals, which would be likely to affect the Battery Street Tunnel's historic character.

The SR 99 Under Elliott and Western design choice, which is part of the Preferred Alternative, would have the greatest effect on the existing configuration of the south end of the Battery Street Tunnel because it would require the tunnel floor to be substantially lowered about 450 feet into the tunnel.

What avoidance alternatives have been identified?

The Rebuild Alternative considered in the March 2004 Draft EIS did not include safety-related alterations to the Battery Street Tunnel. The current Elevated Structure Alternative includes the increased vertical clearance and added fire/life safety improvements because retaining the current configuration would not meet minimum safety standards.

What planning to minimize harm has been incorporated into the proposal?

Prior to proceeding with alternatives that include substantial alterations to the Battery Street Tunnel and prior to issuance of the Final EIS and Record of Decision, the project proponents will ensure that the Preferred Alternative includes a specific documentation plan to ensure that fully adequate records are made of the facility in accordance with the HAER standards.

What is the Bemis Building and why is it protected by Section 4(f)?

This building at S. Atlantic Street east of the existing viaduct was the manufacturing plant for Bemis Brothers Bag Company for more than 80 years. It is currently used for artists' living quarters and studios, requiring truck loading access. It has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C as an example of an early 20th century industrial building. The main façade is on the north, with a distinctive entry and terra cotta ornament. (See additional description of the Bemis Building in the 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part A.)

What use would occur under the Build Alternatives?

The crossing of S. Atlantic Street over SR 99 could restrict access for the Bemis Building. The elevation of the S. Atlantic Street deck or the location of columns may limit or preclude continued truck access to a single loading dock that fronts S. Atlantic Street. The elevated ramp

in the current conceptual design also may restrict access to the majority of truck loading access to the building, which is from the west from Colorado Avenue S.

The elevated S. Atlantic Street overcrossing over SR 99 would obstruct much of the decorative north façade of the building. This visual obstruction of the façade may permanently affect the building's historic setting and context.

What avoidance alternatives have been identified?

There is no feasible alternative to the location of a highway facility adjacent to this building due to the location of SR 99. The relocation of the north-south roadway is not feasible because of the lack of alternative alignments. Alternatives to the ramp are discussed below.

What planning to minimize harm has been incorporated into the proposal?

A design with no elevated structures through use of an atgrade full-movement intersection for the SR 99/SR 519 connection was explored for early phases of development of the Surface Alternative described in the Draft EIS. With this alternative, traffic was found to operate at unacceptable levels of service and create substantial delays. Such an at-grade intersection was found to be infeasible for either of the alternatives discussed in the Supplemental Draft EIS because the delays would substantially degrade the performance of either alternative.

Providing no ramps for access to S. Atlantic Street would avoid obstructing the north façade of the building. Additional design choices are being evaluated that may result in a different configuration for S. Atlantic Street such that the north façade of the building would not be obstructed.

The enhanced access from Colorado Avenue S. to S. Atlantic Street incorporated into the current design choices may be further analyzed with respect to effects on the loading docks on the west side of the building. It may be feasible to maintain access to the loading docks through traffic control on Colorado Avenue S. Other roadway design choices providing the enhanced arterial access to the south through routes other than Colorado Avenue S. may result in fewer impacts on the loading docks. An additional non-roadway alternative may involve reorienting the loading docks away from Colorado

Avenue S. with enough maneuvering area to avoid disrupting traffic flow on Colorado Avenue S.

For the alternatives under consideration, prior to designation of the Preferred Alternative and issuance of the Final EIS and Record of Decision, further design choices will be explored to document whether there are avoidance al-ternatives to the elevated ramps north of the building. As project planning continues, additional options may be developed. This also includes all possible planning of design alternatives for the roadway or the building to ensure that truck access to the building is maintained from the existing loading docks on Colorado Avenue S. or that adequate alternative facilities are provided.

What is the Washington Street Boat Landing and why is it protected by Section 4(f)?

The Washington Street Boat Landing is both a park property and a historic resource. It has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C, for its design characteristics. It is on City of Seattle right-of-way at the end of S. Washington Street. The pergola is listed in the NRHP. The park facility consists of the pergola and an additional feature, the dock, which includes a float and ramp to connect with the pergola. This facility has been operated by the City of Seattle Parks Department for public open space and includes benches as well as being operated as temporary moorage. The floats typically were removed in winter to avoid possible storm damage. The floats were not replaced in the summer of 2001, after the Nisqually earthquake, due to the need for replacement of pilings and because the investment was deemed unwise due to uncertainty about future plans for the viaduct and seawall. The floats are not a 4(f) issue because they have already been removed by the City. (See additional description in the 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part A.)

What use would occur under the Build Alternatives?

The Washington Street Boat Landing pergola would be removed during construction under either alternative. For the Tunnel Alternative construction, the pergola would be relocated farther to the west from the existing seawall, but would remain within the S. Washington Street right-ofway. It would be 42 feet farther west under the stacked

tunnel or 53 feet farther west under the side-by-side tunnel. The Tunnel Alternative provides considerable opportunities for additional open space amenities within the Alaskan Way right-of-way, such that the surrounding uses likely would provide enhanced use of the pergola.

Under the Elevated Structure Alternative, the new elevated highway structure would be closer, dominate views to a greater extent, and result in noise and other proximity impacts. With the Elevated Structure Alternative, the pergola would overhang the water at the edge of the new seawall by its width (about 26 feet), as it does today.

What avoidance alternatives have been identified?

No specific alternatives have been identified that would avoid the temporary relocation of the pergola.

What planning to minimize harm has been incorporated into the proposal?

Planning to minimize harm includes relocation of the pergola and will provide the same facility farther to the west after completion of construction.

What is the McGraw Kittenger Case (Blu Canary/MGM) Building and why is it protected by Section 4(f)?

This structure at the southwest corner of Battery Street and Second Avenue is the most architecturally interesting and most intact of the local film distribution buildings. This small art deco building was constructed in the 1930s for the Alexander Myers Company. From 1936 until the 1950s, it was the regional film distribution center for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. It is now a card shop and small restaurant. The reinforced concrete building was designed by a San Francisco architect, Edmund W. Denle. Interior alterations have been made; however, the art deco exterior remains highly intact, with buff-colored brick cladding and extensive black terra cotta ornament with an arrow motif, including pilasters, window trim, and medallions along the parapet. The building has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with the film distribution industry, and Criterion C for its architectural design. (See additional description in the 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part A.)

What use would occur under the Build Alternatives?

The Tunnel Alternative could be paired with either the Lowered Aurora or the Partially Lowered design choices. Lowered Aurora would include widening the Battery Street Tunnel portals, which would have the greater impact on this property. The Lowered Aurora design choice would require the tunnel to pass under a portion of the northwest corner of the building. With this design choice, the corner of the building foundation would need to be supported temporarily while the soil below is excavated and the tunnel is constructed. The Tunnel Alternative in the absence of widened curves at the Battery Street Tunnel portals would not require the same support methods but may require soil stabilization during tunnel construction to prevent the cracking or settlement of the building.

What avoidance alternatives have been identified?

The design choice not to widen the Battery Street Tunnel curves would avoid effects to this resource.

With the Lowered Aurora design choice, refinements for widening the Battery Street Tunnel curves, or particular construction methods, may allow construction to take place under the building. At this time, design has not proceeded in sufficient detail, but efforts to avoid construction effects that may affect the historic integrity of the structure will be incorporated into the design process. Prior to issuance of the Final EIS and Record of Decision, the Preferred Alternative will include specific plans to protect the building while the tunnel is constructed beneath, so that its associations with the film distribution center can be retained.

What planning to minimize harm has been incorporated into the proposal?

Prior to issuance of the Final EIS, the Preferred Alternative will include specific plans to protect the building from construction effects such as cracking or settlement while the modifications to the Battery Street Tunnel are constructed beneath.

What park, recreation, and historic resources are not discussed in this evaluation?

Park, recreation, and historic resources not discussed in this section are either:

- (1) Not protected by Section 4(f), or
- (2) Are subject to effects that would not substantially impair the activities, features, or attributes that qualified the resource for protection under Section 4(f).

The 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part B addresses in detail the resources that were evaluated but were not subject to use or substantial impairment. The 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part C includes historic inventory forms for buildings evaluated as part of the project. The 2006 Supplemental Draft EIS Appendix N, Part D is a list of Section 6(f) facilities that have received funding from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. There is no use of these specified facilities.

In many cases, although these resources are adjacent to the construction site, such as the Waterfront Park between Piers 57 and 59, the construction of the seawall under the Tunnel or Elevated Structure Alternative would maintain access to the facility and would not result in noise or other effects that would substantially impair the public's ability to access and enjoy the resource.

PURPOSE AND NEED

Annotated to summarize changes from 2003 Purpose and Need

Introduction: Function and Role of the Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor and Alaskan Way Seawall

Identified function of the seawall.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), and the City of Seattle (City) are proposing major improvements to the Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor and to the Alaskan Way Seawall. Both the Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor and the Alaskan Way Seawall are located in downtown Seattle, King County, Washington. As defined for this project, the Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor extends north from approximately South Spokane Street to Roy Street. The Alaskan Way Seawall extends from South Washington Street to Bay Street along Elliott Bay on Puget Sound. From South Washington Street to approximately Pike Street the seawall supports the viaduct. The entire length of the seawall supports surface streets, and utilities.

The Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor (part of SR 99) and Interstate 5 (I-5) are the two primary north-south routes to and through downtown Seattle. The Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor currently carries about 110,000 vehicles a day and serves both through trips and trips accessing the downtown business district and nearby neighborhoods. The Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor provides the quickest and most convenient route to and through downtown Seattle for communities located to the northwest and southwest of downtown. The Corridor plays a vital role in freight mobility, providing a major truck route through downtown, and providing access to the Ballard-Interbay and greater Duwamish manufacturing and industrial centers. The Corridor also serves as a transit route for local and express bus service.

Simplified description of existing corridor access.

Access to SR 99 along the southern and central parts of the corridor is via ramps at selected locations. North of the Battery Street Tunnel access is via right turns from intersecting city streets. North and southbound traffic is physically separated to increase traffic flow and to minimize conflicting left-turning traffic movements. Congestion that currently develops is typically the result of incidents or back-ups at access ramps.

WSDOT studies in 1995 and 1996 concluded that the soils on which the Alaskan Way Viaduct is constructed are vulnerable to soil liquefaction and may lose their ability to support the structure. Studies concluded that if an earthquake of magnitude 7.5 or higher occurred close to Seattle, the Alaskan Way Viaduct could be rendered unusable or even collapse.

Condensed description of seismic vulnerability.

The February 28, 2001 Nisqually earthquake (magnitude 6.8, located 35 miles from Seattle and deep below the surface) caused moderate damage to the Alaskan Way Viaduct. The structure was closed for inspection and repairs intermittently for several days over a period of several months. The extent of damage and loss of the heavily traveled corridor heightened awareness of the need for immediate improvements to the corridor. A Structural Sufficiency Report was prepared after the earthquake and it concluded that continued reliance on the existing viaduct is not prudent.

The Seawall supports Alaskan Way (the surface street) and a variety of utilities. The fills retained by the wall provide lateral support for some of the foundations of the Alaskan Way Viaduct. Alaskan Way includes King County Metro's Waterfront Streetcar, which provides trolley access to various waterfront locations. Alaskan Way also provides access to Colman Dock, which supports vehicle and passenger ferry.

Following the Nisqually earthquake, field investigations and liquefaction analyses were performed for a portion of Alaskan Way (the surface street) where settlements of the roadway had occurred. These investigations concluded that a portion of the loose fills below the relieving platform liquefied and settled in areas where the Seawall structure has been heavily damaged by marine borer activity.

Purpose of the Proposed Action

Added improved access to and from SR 99 north of Battery Street Tunnel to project purpose.

The main purpose of the proposed action is to provide a transportation facility and seawall with improved earth-quake resistance. The project will maintain or improve mobility, accessibility, and traffic safety for people and goods along the existing Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor as well as improve access to and from SR 99 from the Battery Street Tunnel north to Roy Street.

Need for the Proposed Action

Added improved access to and from SR 99 north of Battery Street Tunnel to project needs.

The Alaskan Way Viaduct and Alaskan Way Seawall are both at the end of their useful life. Improvements to both are required to protect public safety and maintain the transportation corridor. Because these facilities are at risk of sudden and catastrophic failure in an earthquake, FHWA, WSDOT and the City of Seattle seek to implement these improvements as quickly as possible. Improvements between the Battery Street Tunnel and Roy Street will be needed to improve access to and from SR 99 and to improve local street connections once the viaduct is replaced. FHWA, WSDOT and the City of Seattle have identified the following underlying needs the project should address:

Seismic Vulnerability

The ability of the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Alaskan Way Seawall to withstand earthquakes needs to be improved. The Alaskan Way Viaduct is vulnerable to earthquakes because of its age, design and location. Built in the 1950s, the Alaskan Way Viaduct is past the halfway point in its 75-year design life and does not meet today's seismic design standards. Additionally, the soils around the foundations of the Alaskan Way Viaduct consist of former tidal flats covered with wet, loose fill material. The Alaskan Way Seawall holds these soils in place along the majority of the Alaskan Way Viaduct corridor, which is also vulnerable to earthquakes.

Traffic Safety

Condensed description of traffic safety problems.

Traffic safety along the Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor needs to be improved. Traffic incident data for the years 1998 through 2000 indicate that high levels of traffic crashes occur in some portions of the Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor. Many locations on the Alaskan Way Corridor meet WSDOT criteria for a notably high level of vehicle crashes.

Roadway Design Deficiencies

The Alaskan Way Viaduct Corridor does not meet current roadway design standards and has several types of deficiencies, which need to be improved.

Condensed description of roadway design deficiencies.

The lane width provided on the Viaduct does not meet current design requirements. Narrow lane width affects roadway capacity and operating speeds as well as safety. In addition, substantial sections of the Viaduct have minimal or no shoulders. Lack of shoulders or narrow shoulder width can adversely affect roadway operations, safety, and capacity.

The on- and off-ramps of the Viaduct and at the south end of the Battery Street Tunnel also do not meet current WSDOT roadway design standards. Short acceleration and deceleration lane lengths may affect the ability of drivers to safely enter and exit the freeway system. Non-standard ramp tapers may not provide drivers with adequate length to exit or enter into through traffic.

Added description of design issues in and north of Battery Street Tunnel.

The lane widths within the Battery Street Tunnel do not meet current WSDOT design standards. Limited sight distance may contribute to rear-end collisions. North of the Battery Street Tunnel, several local streets connect directly to the corridor. Drivers entering and exiting SR 99 may not have room to accelerate or decelerate without adversely affecting traffic flow or safety.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Accessibility

Added description of pedestrian safety issues north of Battery Street Tunnel.

Bicycle and pedestrian safety, mobility, and accessibility need to be maintained or improved as part of the surface improve-ments to Alaskan Way. The Seattle waterfront is the center for Seattle's well-developed comprehensive Urban Trails System. Regional trails from the north, east and west converge on Alaskan Way. Every day, thousands of tourists, recreational walkers and joggers, shoppers, bicyclists, ferry users and office workers utilize Alaskan Way. In addition, the project corridor north of Battery Street Tunnel has only one pedestrian crossing. This part of the project corridor is identified as a high pedestrian accident location. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities across SR 99 will be accommodated with the proposed surface street connections between the Battery Street Tunnel and Roy Street to provide safe passage.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In addition to the project purpose and need, the following goals and objectives will guide project development.

System Linkage

Moved description of system linkage from project needs to goals and objectives.

An objective of the project is support of an integrated regional transportation system. The WSDOT is currently planning to extend SR 509 south from its current terminus near South 188TH Street to connect with I-5 and improve access to and from communities south of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. SR 509 connects to SR 99 at the First Avenue S. Bridge, and serves as a major route from the south to downtown Seattle and nearby port facilities and industrial areas.

Changes proposed as part of the SR 519 Intermodal Access Project in the vicinity of Safeco Field would improve east-west connections between the waterfront and I-5 and I-90, both of which are principal corridors in the regional transportation system. A portion of the SR 519 Intermodal Access Project has been completed.

Washington State Ferries are a division of the State Department of Transportation, and the ferry system is part of the state highway system. The Colman Ferry Dock connects downtown Seattle with ferry service to Bremerton, Bainbridge Island, and passenger ferry service to Vashon Island. Over 10 million passengers and 3 million vehicles currently use these ferries annually. Service expansion is included in the State's long-range plans for the ferry system.

Added need for improved connections to and from SR 99 north of Battery Street Tunnel.

As part of implementing the South Lake Union neighborhood plan, the City is currently exploring options for improving mobility in the area, including east-west mobility between SR 99 and I-5. Improved connections are needed to provide access to and from SR 99 and the local arterial network. The City is also planning to widen the Spokane Street Viaduct. The Spokane Street Viaduct provides the major link between I-5 and West Seattle (via the West Seattle Bridge). The major transit route from West Seattle to downtown Seattle is by way of the West Seattle Bridge and the Alaskan Way Viaduct.

Seattle's Plans for the Downtown Waterfront

Simplified description of Seattle's waterfront plans.

Improvements to the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Alaskan Way Seawall need to be integrated with and supportive of existing activities and land use plans for the Seattle waterfront. The Seattle downtown waterfront has been transformed from its origins as a working waterfront, characterized by shipping, warehouse and industrial uses, to an important area for tourism and recreation. The central waterfront now has a vibrant mix of uses which include office, retail, hotel, residential, conference center, aquarium, museum, parks, cruise ship terminal, ferry terminal, and various types of commercial and recreational moorage. Land use plans and policies for downtown Seattle and the water-front will help guide improvements in the Corridor to provide opportunities for access to and along the waterfront for freight, pedestrians and bicyclists, and an improved surface street.

Plans for Habitat Improvement

Clarified that project will consider habitat enhancement.

The existing Alaskan Way Seawall provides poor habitat for chinook salmon (listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act) and other marine species. Reconstruction of the Alaskan Way Seawall offers an opportunity to improve habitat where practicable and feasible. Elliott Bay is an important link for juvenile salmon migrating from the Duwamish River toward the Pacific Ocean. The vertical bulkheads of the Alaskan Way Seawall and other features of the waterfront provide minimal habitat for the numerous young chinook and chum salmon that migrate across the Seattle waterfront to the north shore of Elliott Bay during their critical rearing period. This project will consider measures to enhance habitat.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Supporting Documentation (All in separate volumes)

- A. Agency and Public Coordination
- B. Alternatives Description and Construction Methods Technical Memorandum
- C. Transportation Discipline Report
- D. Visual Quality Technical Memorandum
- E. Visual Simulations
- F. Noise and Vibration Discipline Report
- G. Land Use and Shorelines Technical Memorandum
- H. Parks and Recreation Technical Memorandum
- I. Social Resources Technical Memorandum
- J. Environmental Justice Technical Memorandum
- K. Relocations Technical Memorandum
- L. Historic Resources Technical Memorandum
- M. Archaeological Resources and Traditional Cultural Places **Technical Memorandum**
- N. Section 4(f) Evaluation Parts A, B, C, and D
- O. Public Services and Utilities Technical Memorandum
- P. Economic Technical Memorandum
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- R. Fisheries, Wildlife, and Habitat Discipline Report
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- T. Geology and Soils Technical Memorandum
- U. Hazardous Materials Discipline Report
- V. Energy Technical Memorandum
- W. Alternatives and Options Drawings
- Y Supplemental Draft EIS Annotated Outline

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ACRONYMS

Α		P	
AWV Proje	ect Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project	PAHs	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons
В		ppm	parts per million
BMPs	Best Management Practices	PSRC	Puget Sound Regional Council
BNSF	Burligton Northern Santa Fe Railway	R	
С	,	RALF	Resource Agency Leadership Forum
CEVP®	Cost Estimate Validation Process	S	<u> </u>
City	City of Seattle	SEPA	State Environmental Policy Act
CO	Carbon monoxide	SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
Corps	United States Army Corps of Engineers	SIG	Seattle International Gateway
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act	SODO	South of Downtown
D	Ü	SOVs	single occupant vehicles
dBA	A-weighted decibels	SR	State Route
	11 Weighted decises	Т	
E EIS	Environmental Import Statement	ТМС	Traffic Management Center
	Environmental Impact Statement		Traine Management Genter
EMFs	electric and magnetic fields	W	
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	WOSCA	Washington-Oregon Shippers Cooperative Associa
ESA	Endangered Species Act	WSDOT	Washington State Department of Transportation
F		WSF	Washington State Ferries
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration		
Н			
HOV	high-occupancy vehicle		
HPA	Hydraulic Project Approval		
I			
I-5	Interstate 5		
N			
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards		
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act		
NPDES	National Pollutant Dishcharge Elimination System		
NPS	National Park Service		
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places		

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COMMENT FORM

All comments must be received by September 22, 2006

Use the form on this page to send your comments on this Supplemental Draft EIS to the lead agencies. All comments received by September 22, 2006 will have a response in the Final EIS. Additional comments, or if the form has already been used, should be sent to:

WSDOT

Attn: Kate Stenberg, AWV Environmental Manager AWV Project Office (Wells Fargo Building) 999 Third Avenue S., Suite 2424 Seattle, WA 98104-4019

Comments can also be sent by email to:

awvsdeiscomments@wsdot.wa.gov

Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project Supplemental Draft EIS Comment Form

Please use this form to give us comments on the Supplemental	Contact Information At a minimum, please provide your name and zip code. If you would like to be added to the project mailing list, please fill out the rest of the contact information and check the box below. Check here if you would like to be added to the project mailing list.					
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project. The comments you make will become part of the public record for this project. Responses to your comments will be provided in the Final EIS.						
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\square All of the Alternatives \square Design Choices	☐ Traffic Impacts & Mitigation					
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